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Charm Production at RHIC

Nu Xu -- LBNL

(1) Introduction

(2) Results from STAR (selected)

- electron spectra from p+p and d+Au
- Open charm hadron spectrum from d+Au
- v_2 from Au+Au

(3) Summary and outlook

Many Thanks to:

Organizers

X. Dong, S. Esumi, H. Huang, H. Ritter, K. Schweda, P. Sorensen, **A. Tai**, Z. Xu
E.L. Bratkovskaya, L. Grandchamp, J. Raufeisen, R. Vogt



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Predictions from QCD: The QGP

Today

Solar system
Quasars
Galaxy formation
Epoch of gravitational collapse
Recombination
Relic radiation decouples (CBR)
Matter domination
Onset of gravitational instability

Nucleosynthesis
Light elements created - D, He, Li

Quark-hadron
 $t = 10^{-6}$ sec
 $T = 1$ GeV

Electroweak phase transition
Electromagnetic & weak nuclear forces become differentiated:
 $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1) \rightarrow SU(3) \times U(1)$

The Particle Desert
Axions, supersymmetry?

Grand unification transition
 $G \rightarrow H \rightarrow SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$
Inflation, baryogenesis, monopoles, cosmic strings, etc.?

The Planck epoch

$t = 15$ billion years

$t = 5 \times 10^{17}$ sec
 $T = 1$ MeV

$t = 400,000$ years
 $T = 3000$ K (1 eV)

$t = 3$ minutes

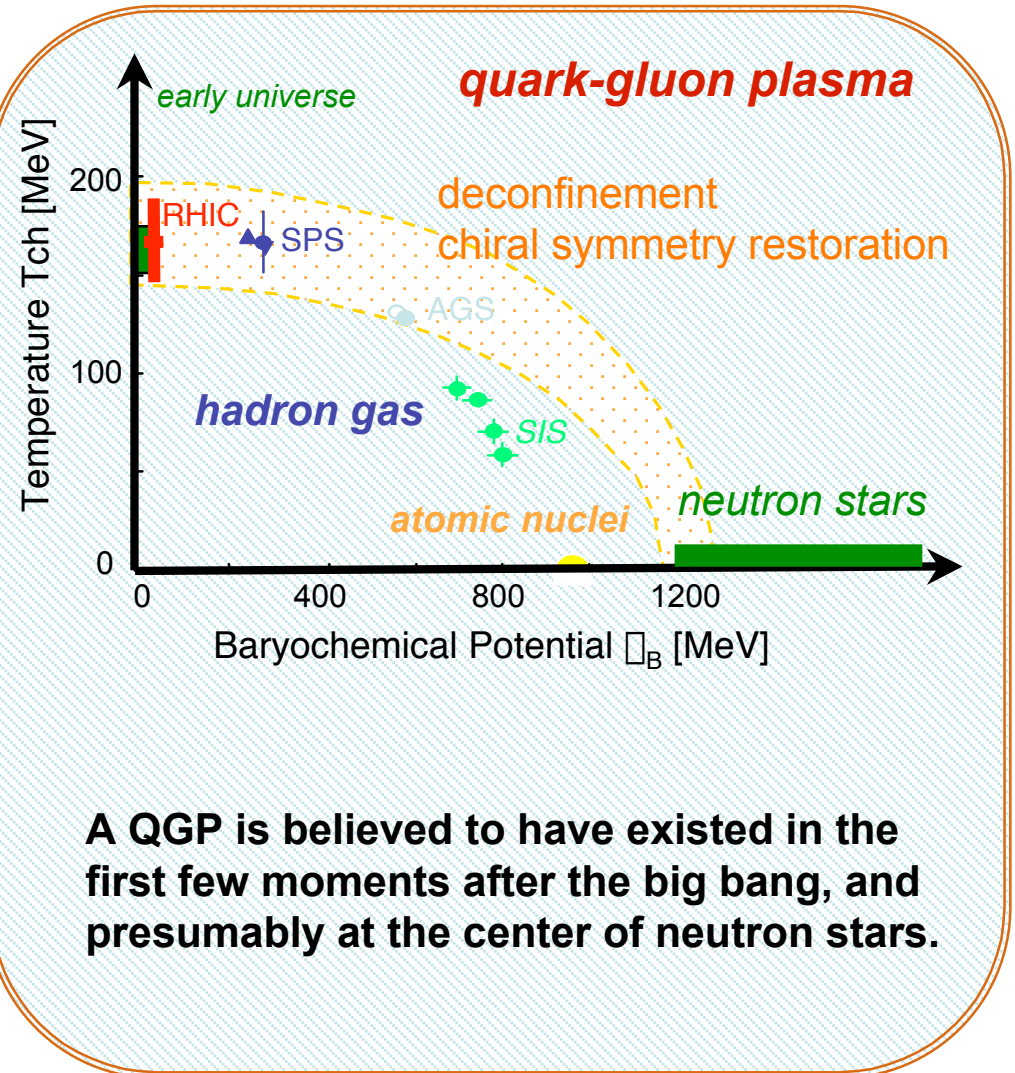
$t = 1$ second
 $T = 1$ MeV

$t = 10^{-6}$ s
 $T = 1$ GeV

$t = 10^{-11}$ s
 $T = 10^3$ GeV

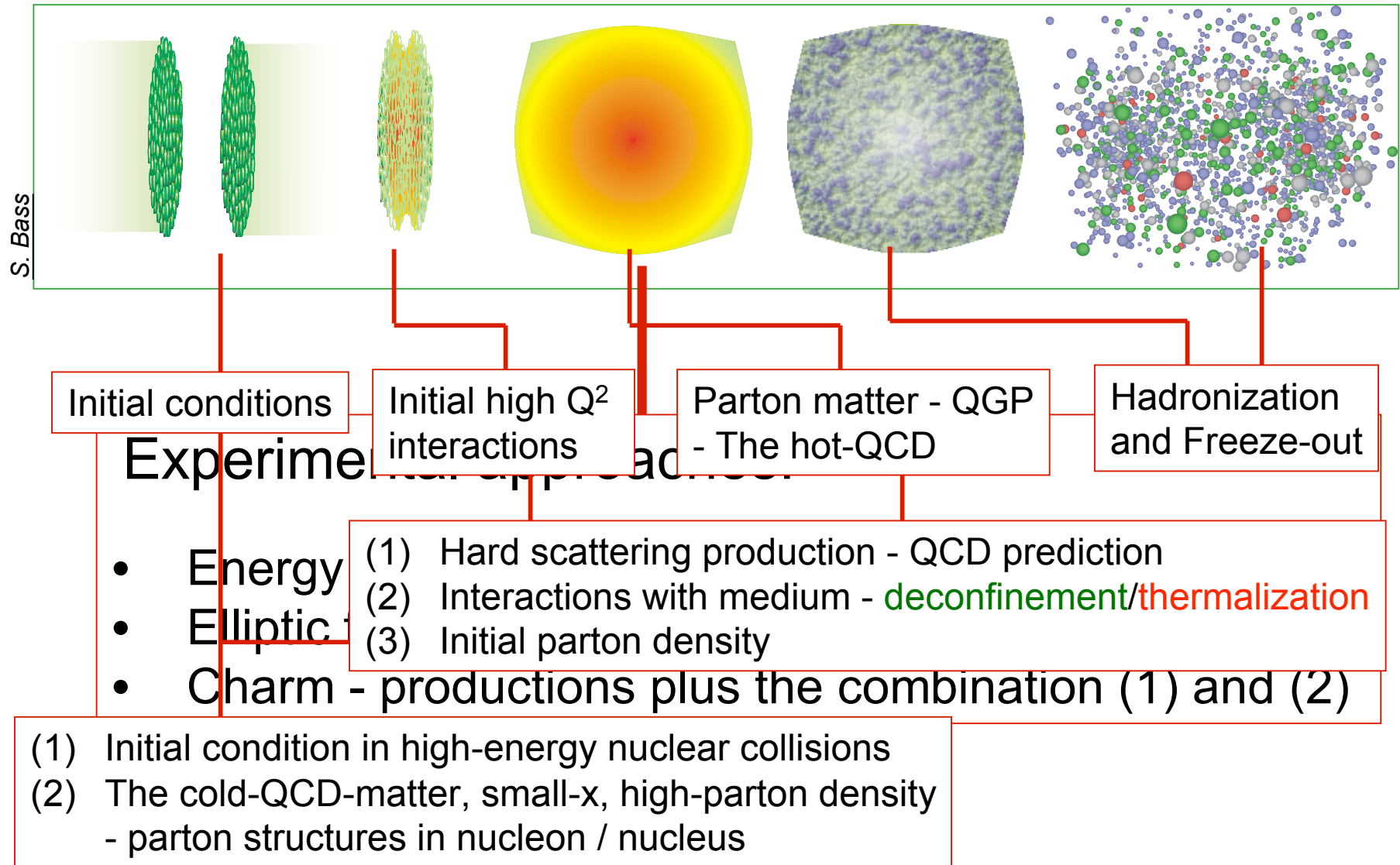
$t = 10^{-35}$ s
 $T = 10^{15}$ GeV

$t = 10^{-43}$ s
 $T = 10^{19}$ GeV



A QGP is believed to have existed in the first few moments after the big bang, and presumably at the center of neutron stars.

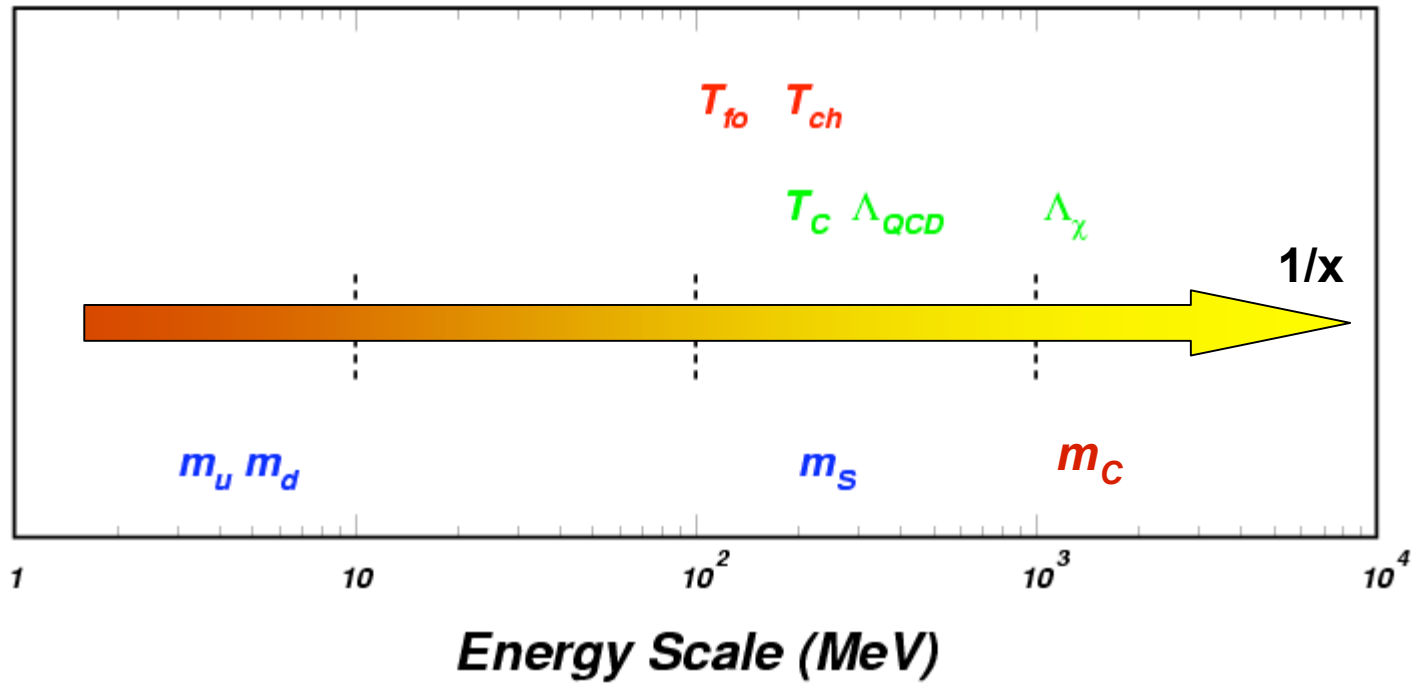
High-energy nuclear collisions





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QCD Energy Scale



s-quark mass ~ 0.2 GeV, similar to values of

T_c critical temperature
 Λ_{QCD} QCD scale parameter
 T_{CH} chemical freeze-out temperature

$f_\pi = 4f_\pi$ chiral breaking scale

c-quark mass $\sim 1.2 - 1.5$ GeV $\gg \Lambda_{QCD}$

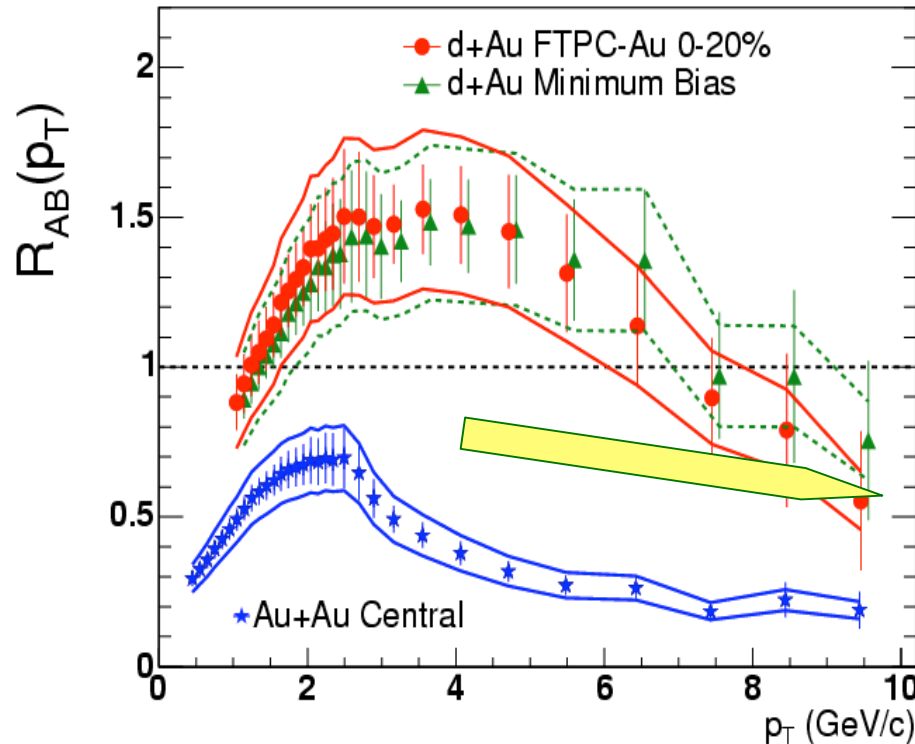
-- pQCD production - parton density at small-x
 -- QCD interaction - medium properties

$R_{cc} \sim 1/m_c \Rightarrow$ color screening

$J/\psi \Rightarrow$ deconfinement and thermalization

u-, d-, s-quarks: **light-flavors** || c-, b-quarks: **heavy-flavors**

Energy Loss, Dead-cone Effect

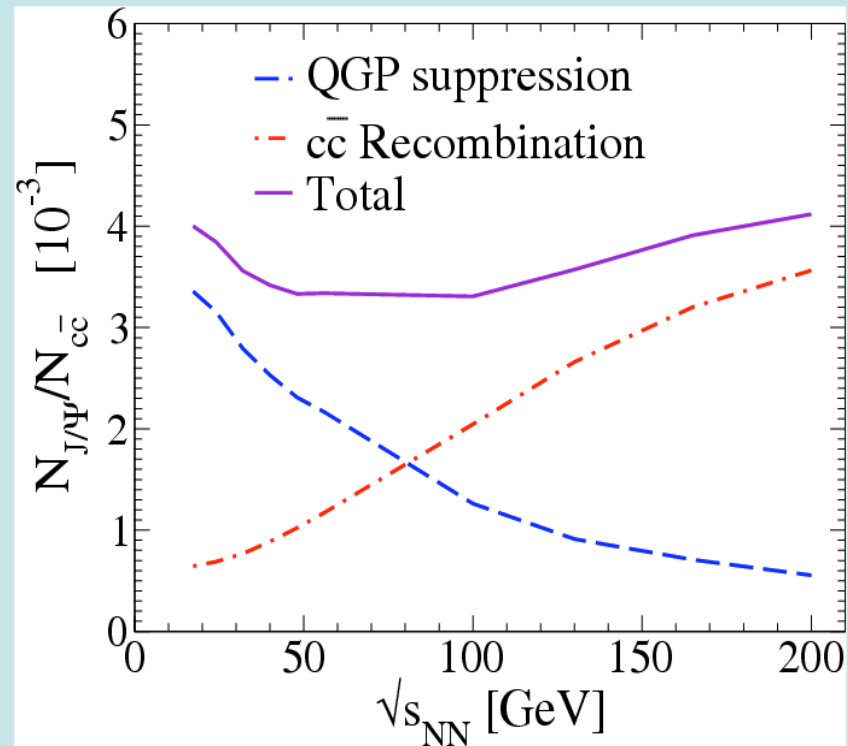
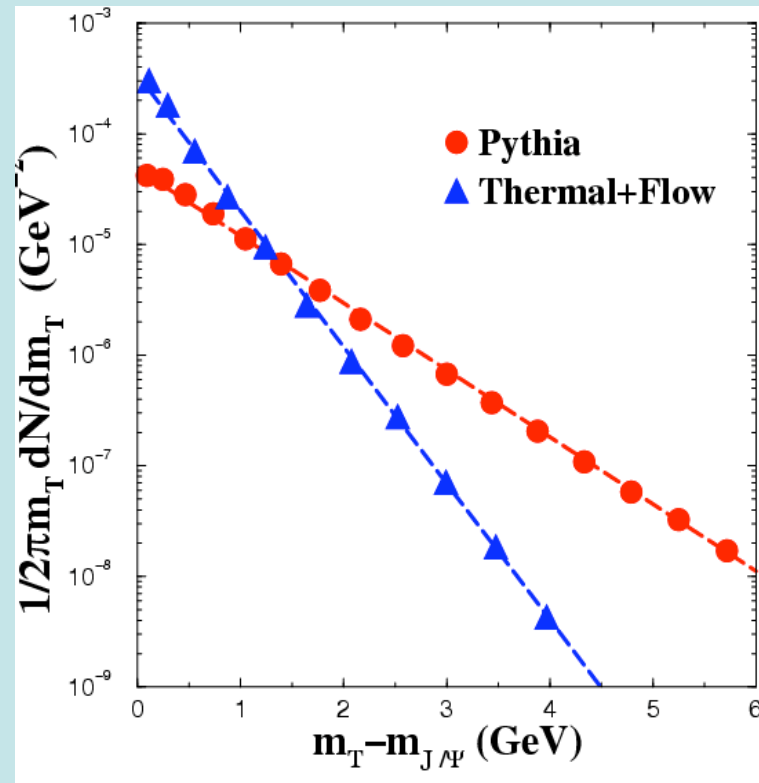


Energy Loss:

- 1) Heavy quark gluon radiation is reduced in the colored medium
- 2) Less energy loss for charm-hadrons \rightarrow less suppressions
- 3) Test partonic energy loss assumption
- 4) Implication on both open- and close-charm hadrons spectra!

M. Djordjevic and M. Gyulassy, nucl-th/0404006
*Yu. Dokshitzer and D. Kharzeev, Phys. Lett. **B519**, 199(2001)*

J/ψ via coalescence



L. Grandchamp and R. Rapp, hep-ph/0209141(02)

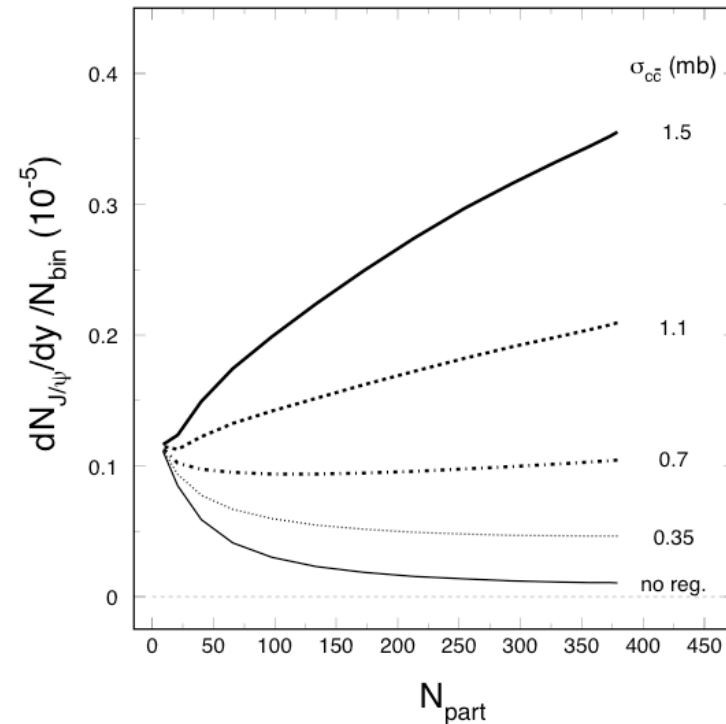
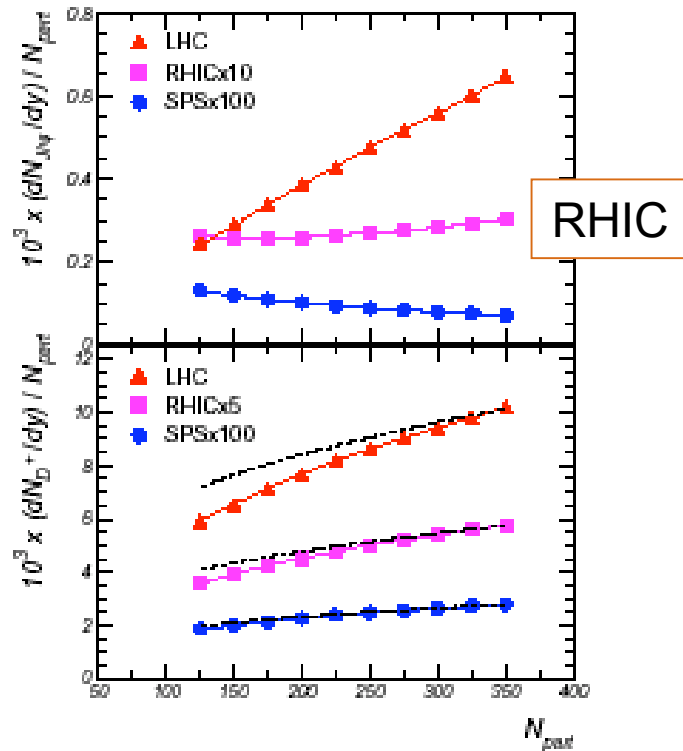
J/ψ: in central AA collisions, due to interaction with light flavors, values of mean p_T decrease and yields increase
 ⇒ **deconfinement and thermalization for light flavors**



Open-/closed-charm hadron yields

A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger, K. Redlich, J. Stachel, Phys.Lett. **B571** , 36(03).

L. Grandchamp and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. **B523** , 60(01).

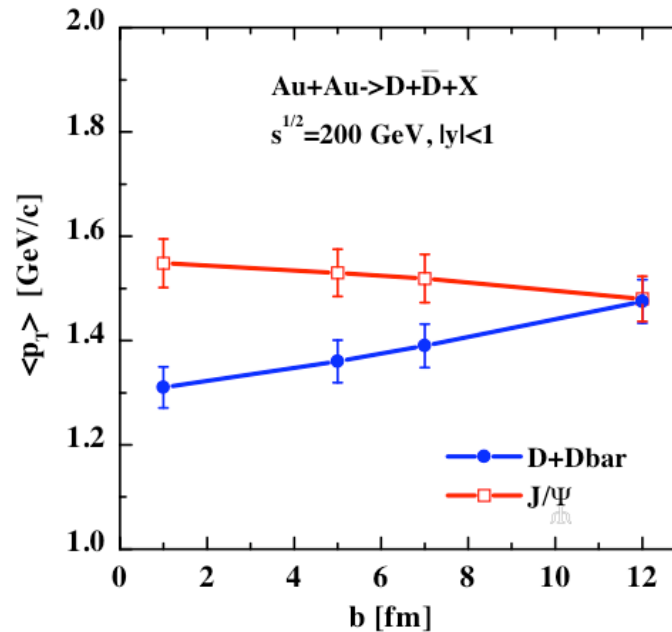
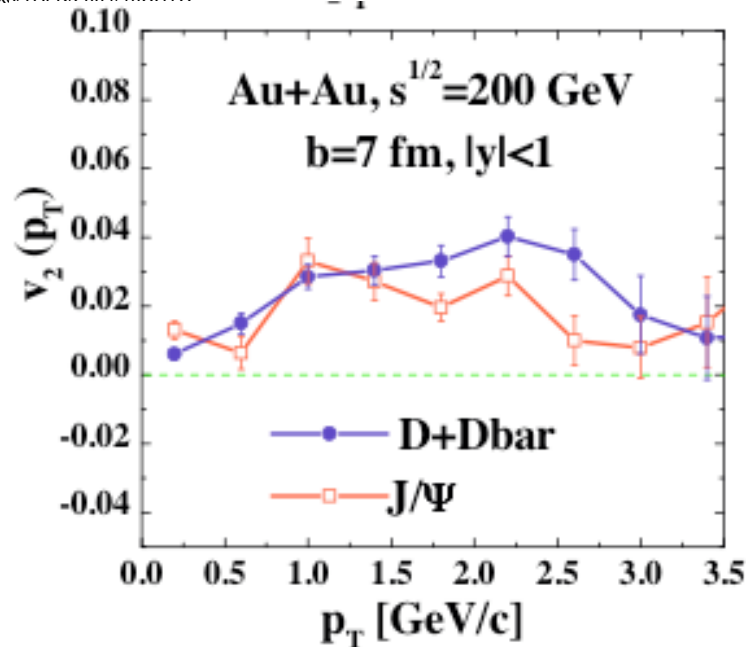


- (1) open charm cross;
- (2) direct pQCD production;

- (3) medium effects (\square properties);
- (4) absorption (color screening)

Model results are different, centrality dependence measurements are important!

Charm collectivity at RHIC



Through multiple rescatterings, partonic/hadronic, collective motion has been developed for charmed hadrons at RHIC!

- 1) D-mesons lose their energy due to the hard spectrum at production
- 2) J/ψ increase in p_T due to coalescence process
- 3) Both attained finite value of elliptic flow v_2

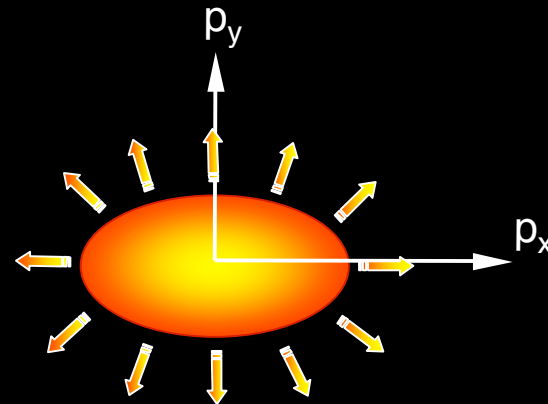
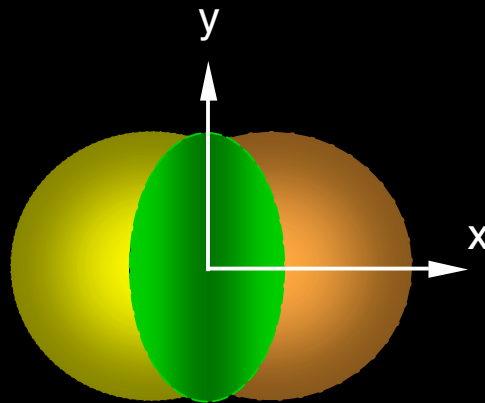
HSD Model: *E.L. Bratkovskaya, W. Cassing, H. Stocker, and N. Xu, nucl-th/0409047 (2004)*

Anisotropy parameter v_2

coordinate-space-anisotropy



momentum-space-anisotropy

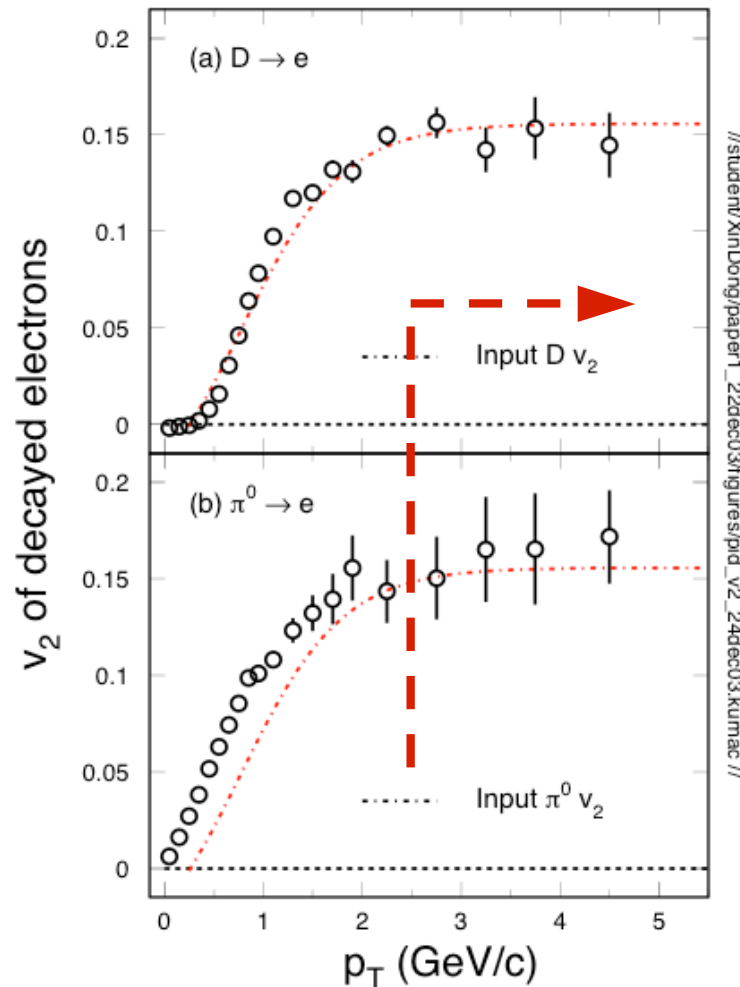


$$\phi = \frac{\langle y^2 \rangle - \langle x^2 \rangle}{\langle y^2 \rangle + \langle x^2 \rangle}$$

$$v_2 = \langle \cos 2\phi \rangle, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{p_y}{p_x} \right)$$

Initial/final conditions, EoS, degrees of freedom

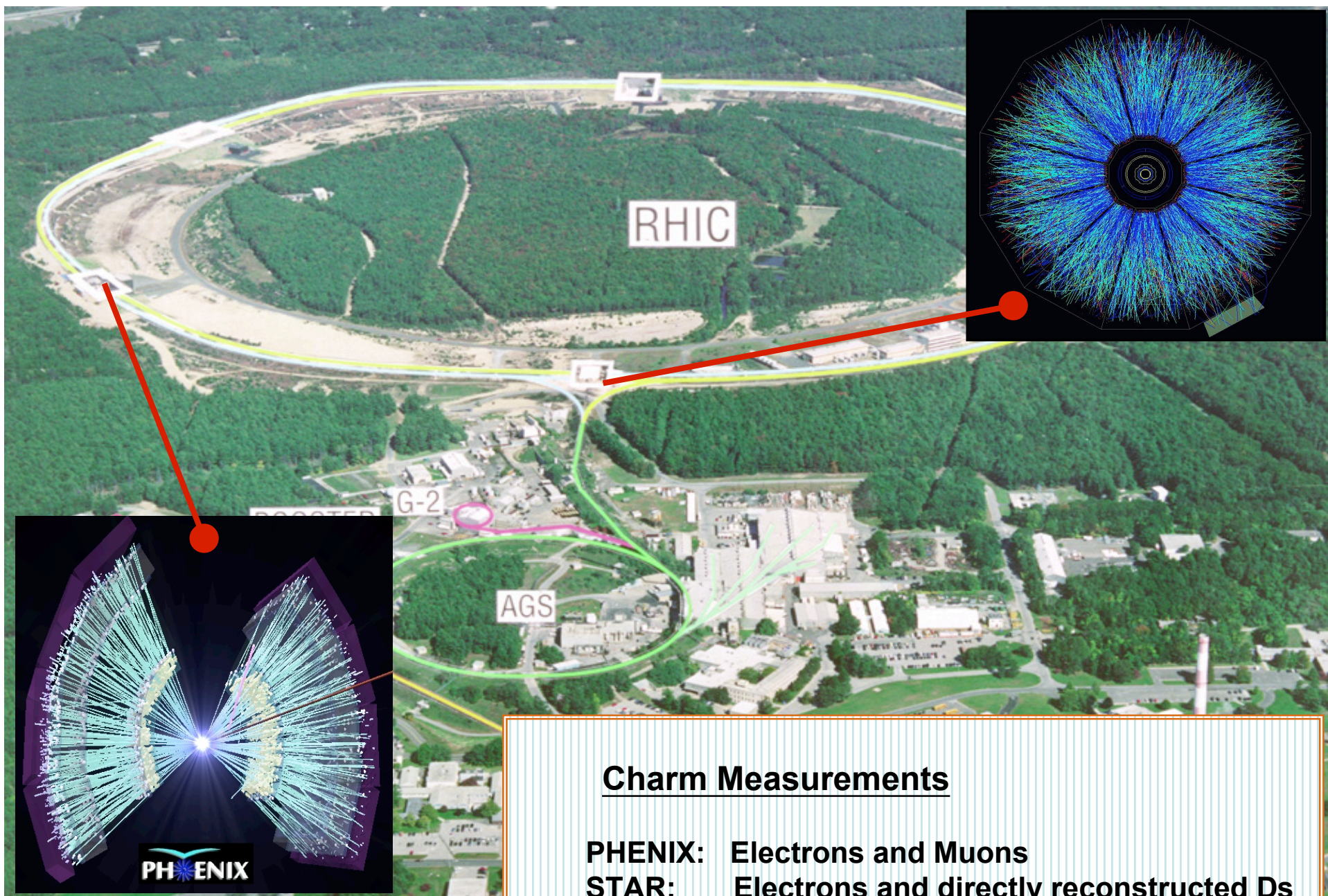
Open charm v_2



At $p_T > 2.5$ GeV/c:

- 1) D-meson spectrum is 'hard', yields of pion will be small, measure D-decayed electron to infer the open charm v_2
- 2) D-meson flow \Rightarrow indication of light flavor thermal equilibrium.

X. Dong, S. Esumi, P. Sorensen, N. Xu and Z. Xu, *Phys. Lett.* **B597**, 328(2004).





STAR: TPC & MRPC-TOF

A new technology - Multi-gap Resistive Plate Chamber (MRPC), adopted from CERN-Alice

➤ A prototype detector of time-of-flight (TOF) was installed in Run3

➤ One tray: $\sim 0.3\%$ of TPC coverage

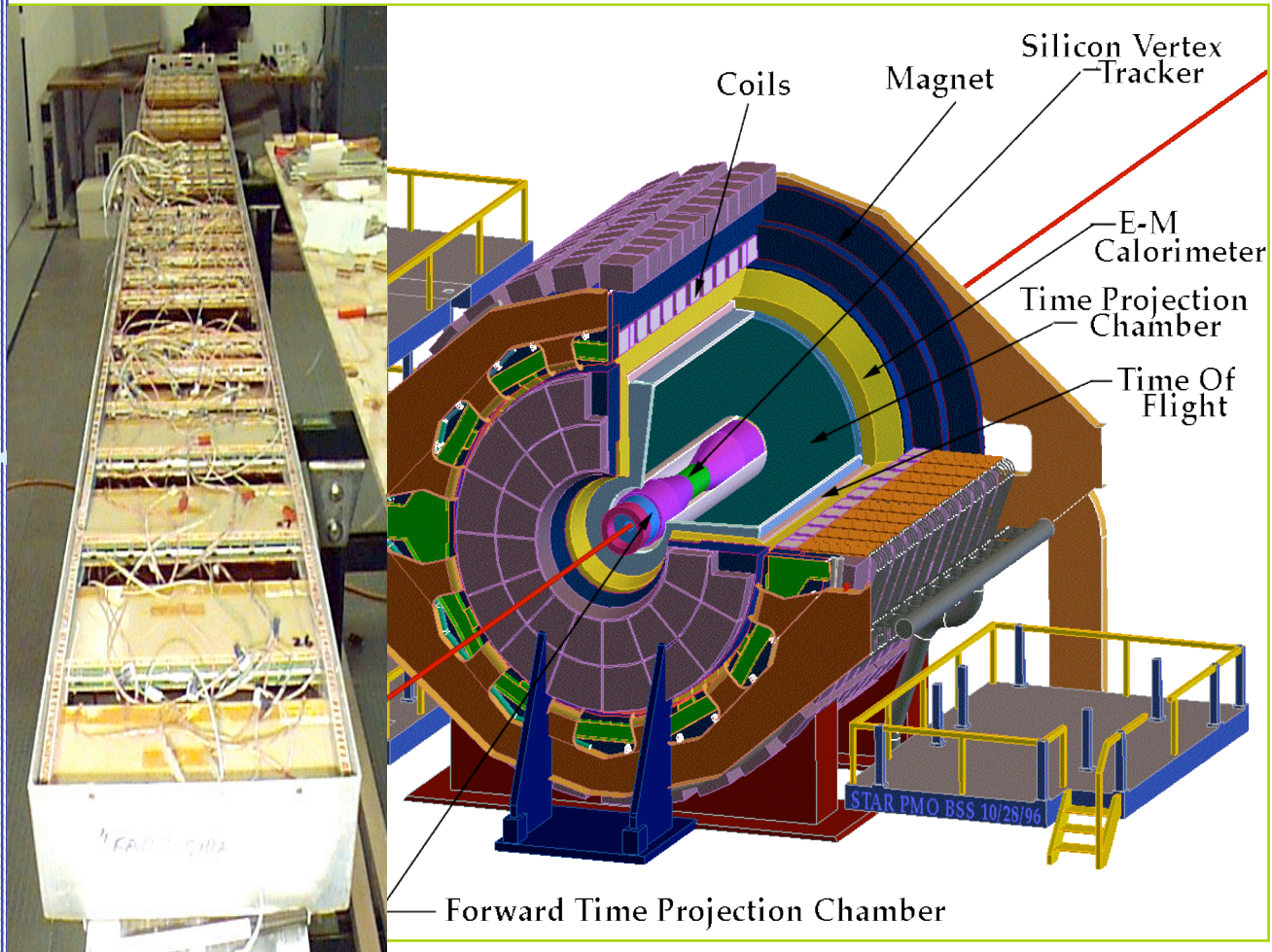
➤ Intrinsic timing resolution: ~ 85 ps

pion/kaon ID:

$p_T \sim 1.7$ GeV/c

proton ID:

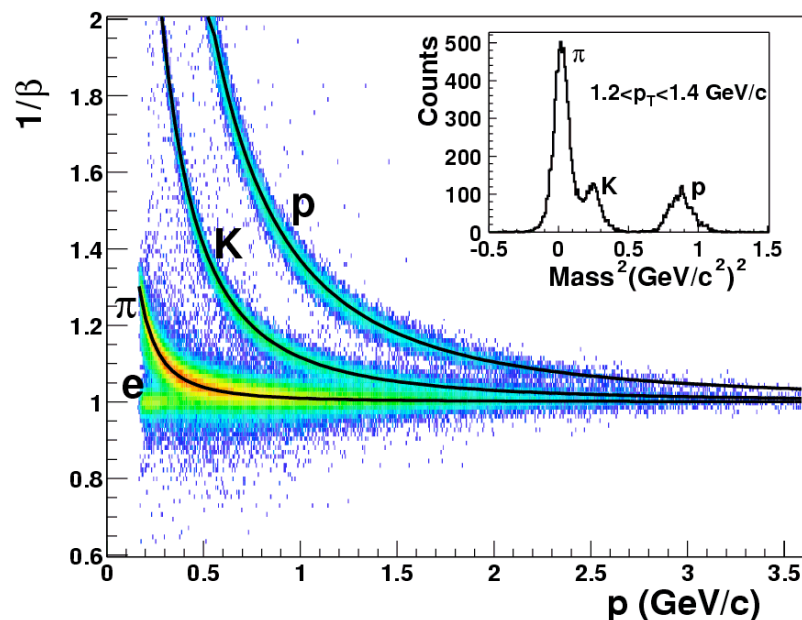
$p_T \sim 3$ GeV/c



TPC dE/dx PID:

pion/kaon: $p_T \sim 0.6$ GeV/c; proton $p_T \sim 1.2$ GeV/c

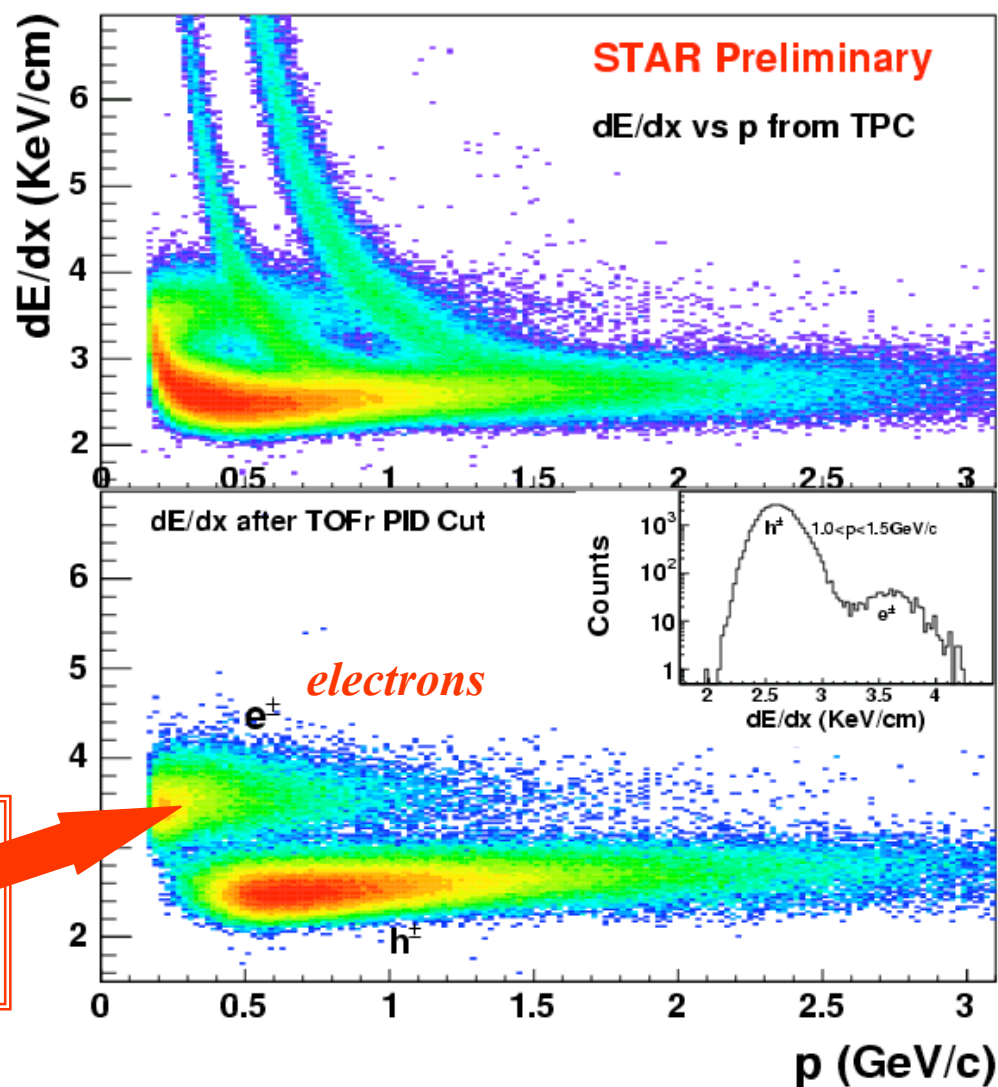
STAR TOFr PID



Electron identification:

TOFr $|1/\beta - 1| < 0.03$

TPC dE/dx **electrons!!!**





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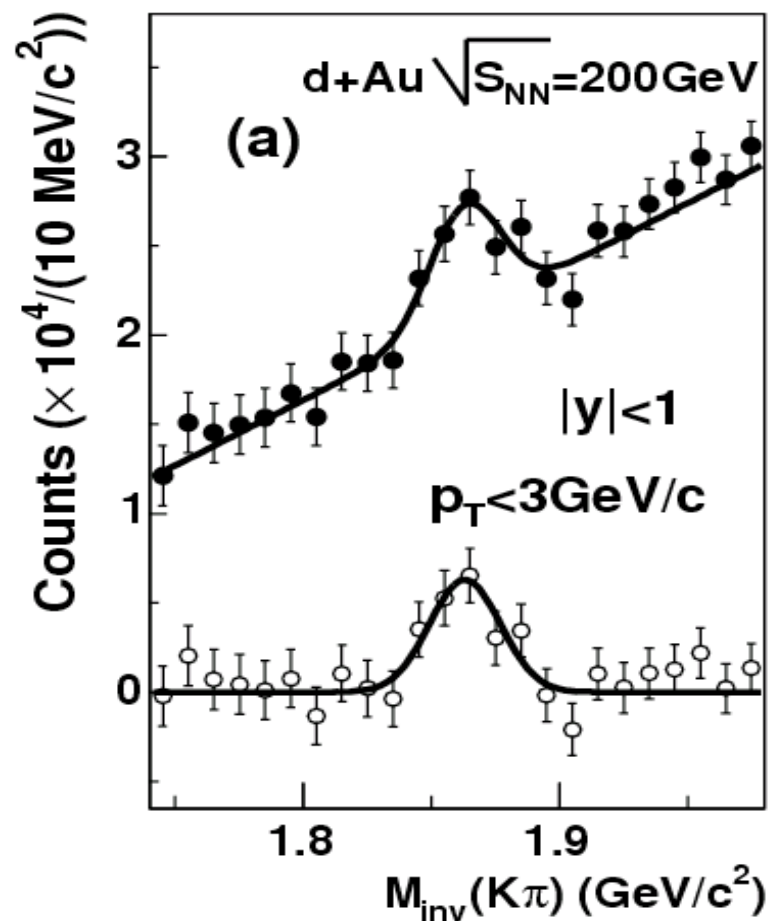
D^0 direct reconstruction

$$D^0 \rightarrow K^0 \pi^+ \quad (\text{Br. } 3.83\%)$$

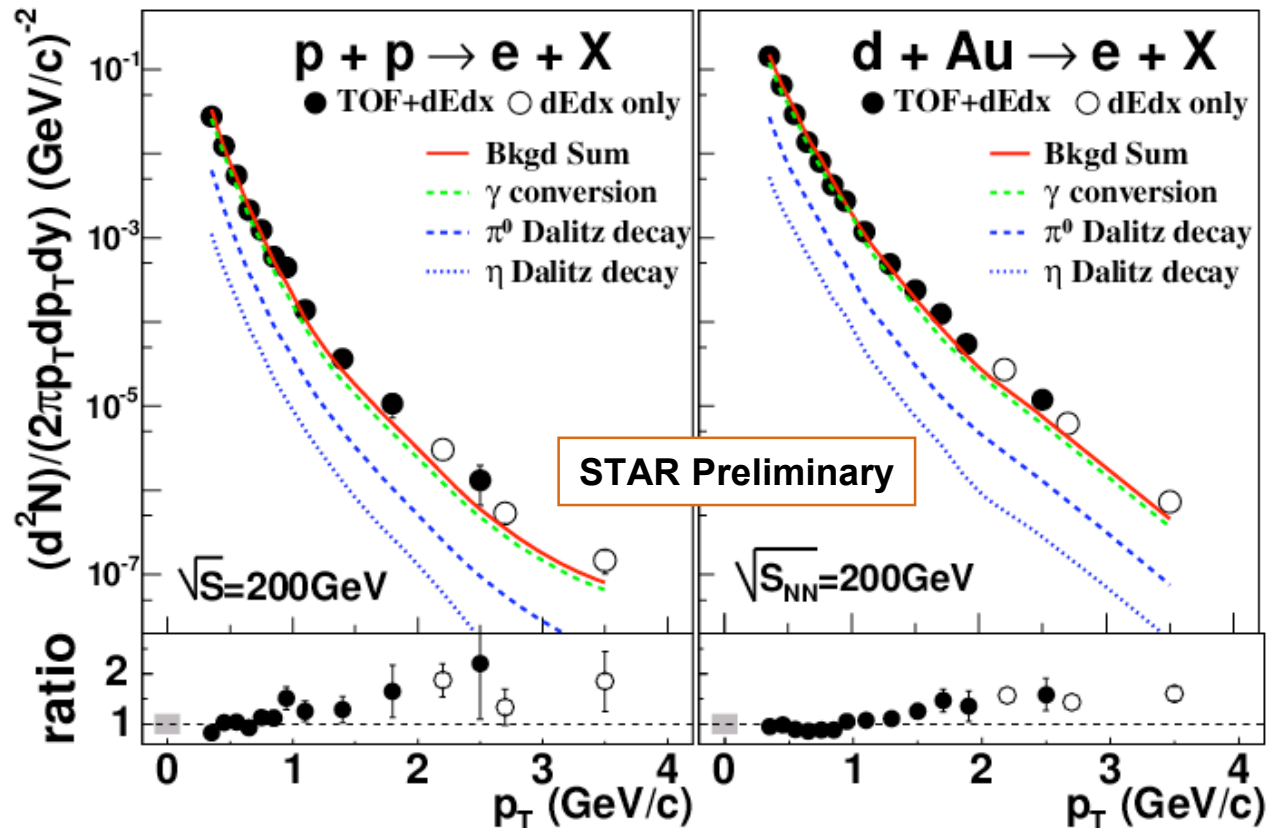


C. Adler et al., *Phys. Rev. C* 66, 061901(R)(2002)
H. Zhang, *J. Phys. G* 30, S577(2004)

STAR Preliminary



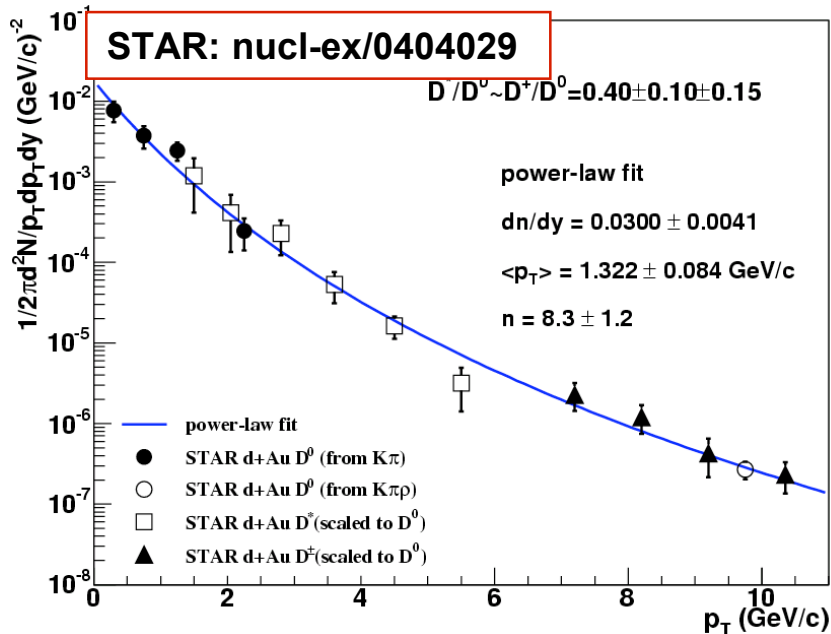
Electron spectra



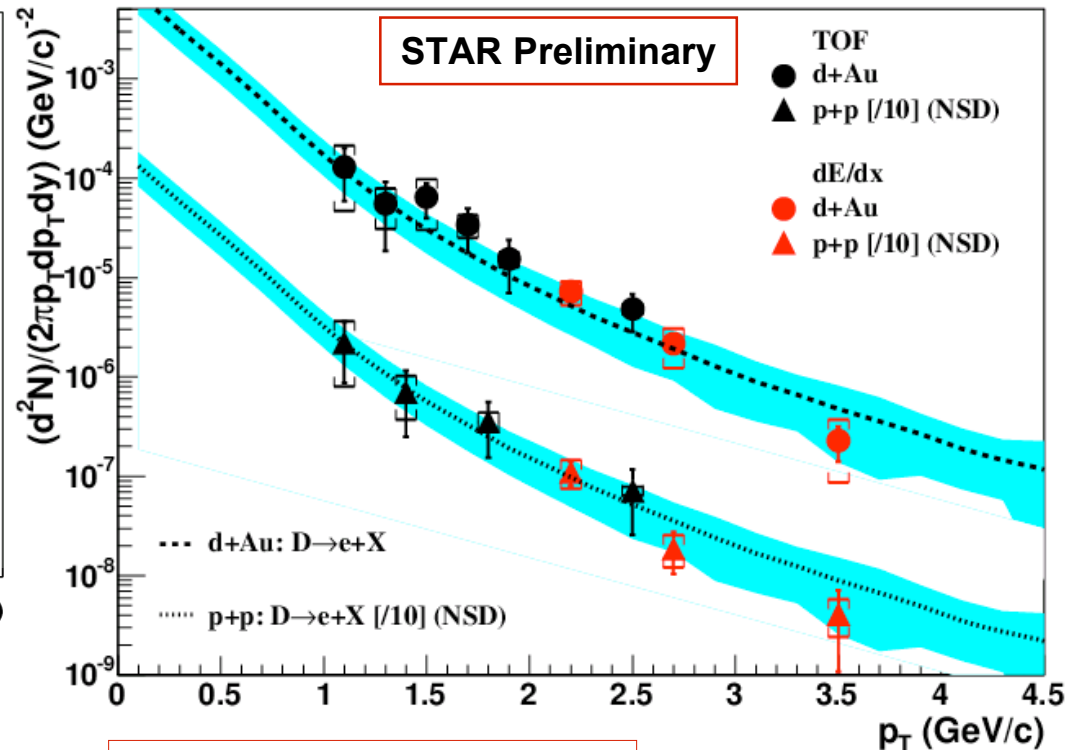
An increasing excess found at higher p_T region, $p_T > 1.0$ GeV/c,
 → Expected contribution of **semi-leptonic decays from heavy flavor hadrons**

STAR: *nucl-ex/0407006*

Consistent in D measurements



Directly reconstructed D mesons



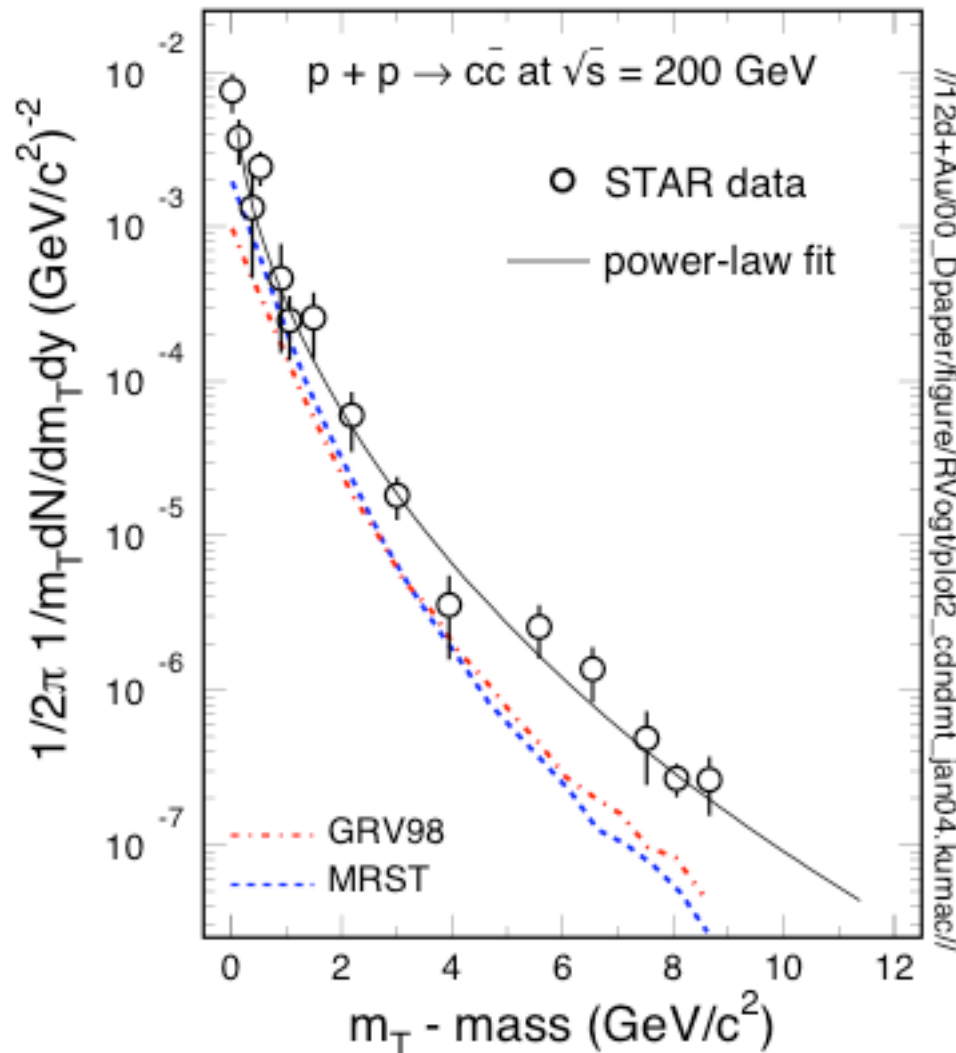
Electrons from D decay

D and electron spectra are consistent!



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Open charm production at RHIC



- pQCD distributions are steeper
-
- Fragmentation with delta function has harder spectrum
-
- Total cross sections are lower, a factor of 3-5

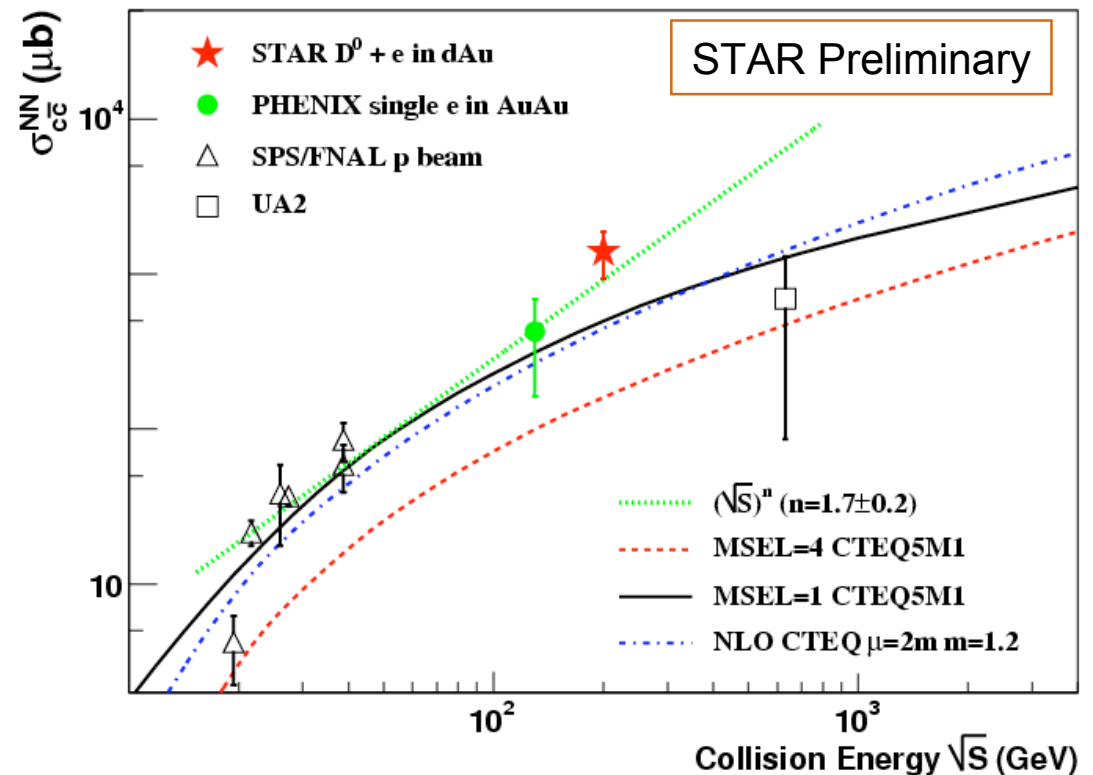
- R. Vogt, 2004



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Charm production cross-section

- 1) NLO pQCD calculations under-predict the $c\bar{c}$ production cross section at RHIC
- 2) Power law for $c\bar{c}$ production cross section from SPS to RHIC:
 $n \sim 2$
($n \sim 0.5$ for charged hadrons)
- 3) Large uncertainties in total cross section due to rapidity width, model dependent(?).

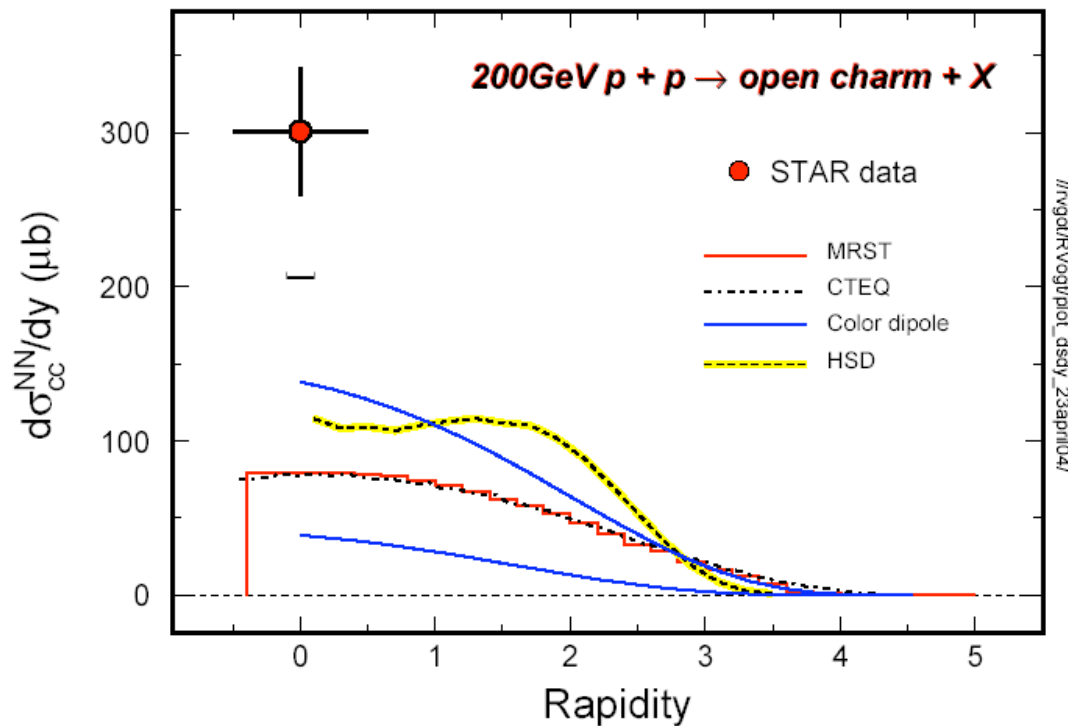




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Open charm production at RHIC

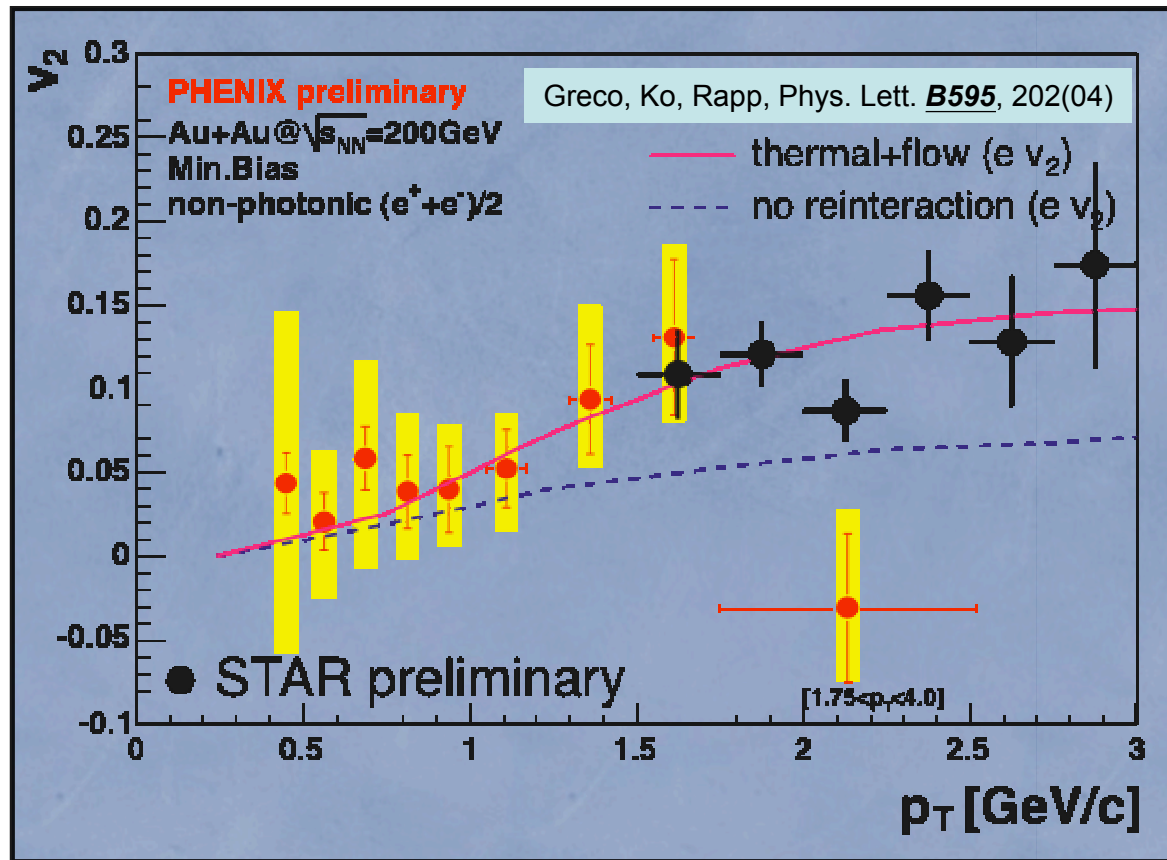
J. Raufeisen and J. Peng, *Phys. Rev.* **D67**, 054008(2003)
HSD: *Phys. Rev.* **C67**, 054905(2003).



- 1) $d\sigma/dy \Leftrightarrow \sigma$: a factor from model like Pythia. At 200 GeV, the factor 4.7 was used at STAR.
- 2) A strong dependent on the method of fragmentation in charm p_T spectra observed, but not on rapidity distributions.

	$dN(D^0)/dy _{y=0}$ (10^{-2})	$d\sigma_{cc}^{NN}/dy _{y=0}$ (mb)
D^0	$2.8 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.8$	$0.29 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.08$
$D^0 + e^\pm$	$2.9 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.8$	$0.30 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.09$
$D + e^\pm$	$2.7 \pm 0.3 \pm 0.7$	$0.28 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.08$

Non-photonic electron v_2

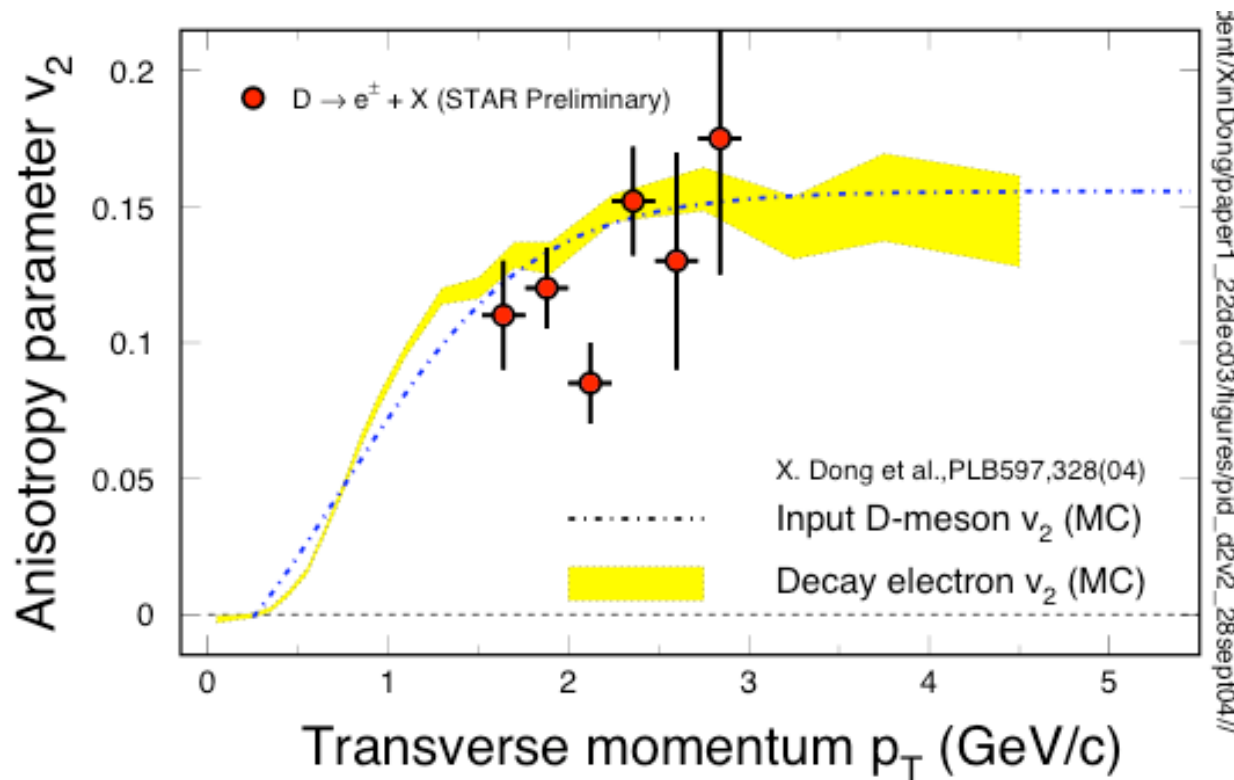


STAR: 0-80% (F.Laue SQM04)
 statistical error only
 corrected for e^\pm from \square decay

PHENIX: Minimum bias

M. Kaneta *et al*, J.Phys. **G30**, S1217(04)

Open charm v_2 - a comparison



- 1) *Constituent Quark Scaling for open charm hadron production?*
- 2) *Flow of charm-quark and the thermalization among light flavors?*
- 3) *...????*

X. Dong, S. Esumi, P. Sorensen, N. Xu and Z. Xu, *Phys. Lett. B* **597**, 328(2004).



Summary

- 1) First J/ψ data at RHIC, much more statistics needed.
- 2) Open charm yields measured in both 200GeV p+p and d+Au collisions. No evidence of deviation from binary collision scaling in d+Au collisions

$$\sigma_{c\bar{c}}^{\text{total}} = 700 \text{ -- } 1200 (\mu\text{b})$$

- 3) Perturbative calculations under predicted both yields and spectrum shape. Hadronization process not under control
- 4) Study open charm v_2 and J/ψ yields to address thermalization issues at RHIC. The run-IV data will just do that.



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Thermal Equilibrium at RHIC

At RHIC, yields of open charm is high:

1) The rescattering will lead to **collective motion** and thermalization among partons. Since $m_C \gg T_0$ and $m_{u,d,s}$ thermal equilibrium is first reachable among light flavors.

2) Coalescence of charm quarks will lead to the **enhancement of J/ψ production** and **thermal-like** spectra in central nucleus-nucleus collisions.

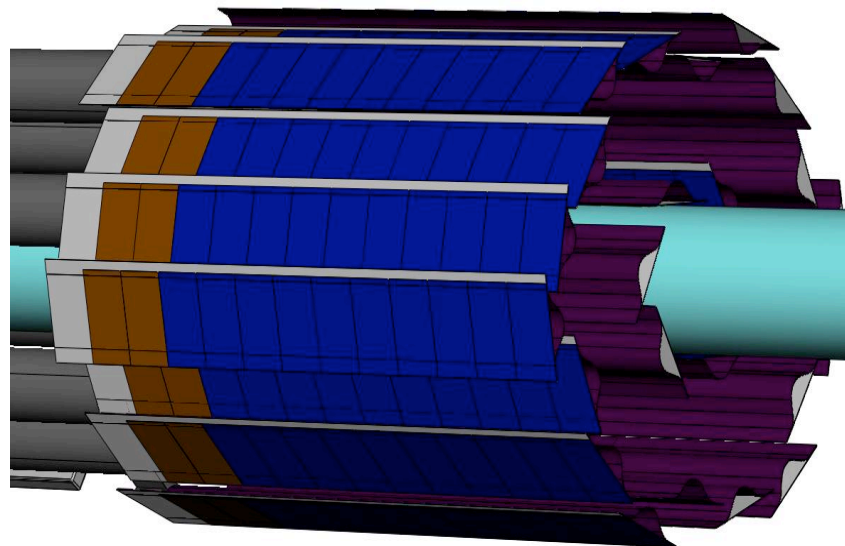
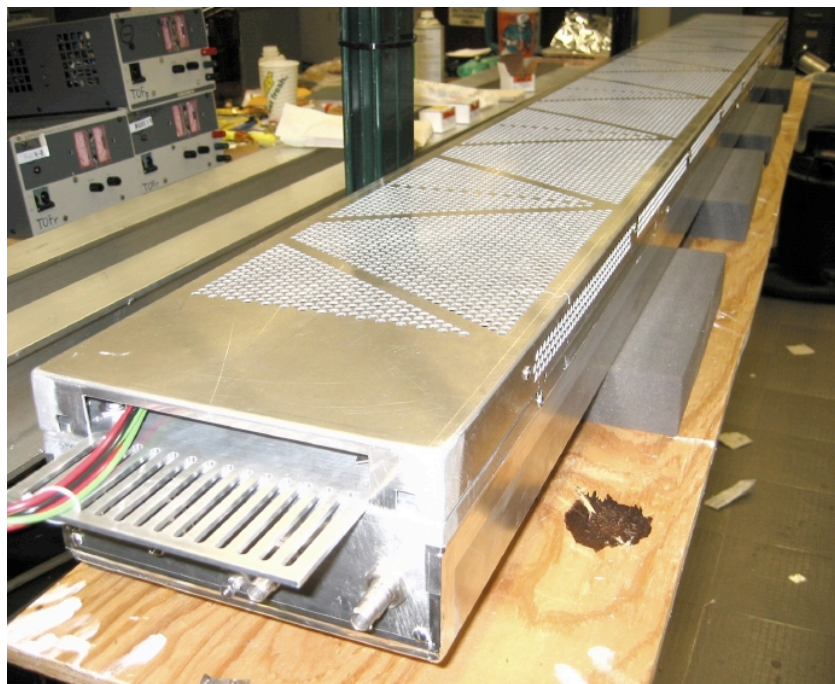
- ⇒ **Study open charm and J/ψ spectra and v_2**
- ⇒ **Study J/ψ yields versus collision centrality**



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Upgrade at STAR

STAR MRPC - TOF



STAR MicroVertex Tracker

Active pixel sensors (APS)

Two layers of thin silicon

- Full open charm measurements
- Full resonance measurements with both hadron and lepton decays